

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 23, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

D1
The construction of the exemplary proximal part 12 of the bifurcated stent 10 is shown in Figures 2 (a) and 2 (b); nitinol wire type M wire typically having a diameter of 0.46mm (0.018") is wound around mandrel 46 to form a plurality of hoops 20. The winding surface of mandrel 46 is provided with a plurality of upstanding pins 47 disposed in a zig-zag pattern for each of the hoops 20 so that in each hoop 20 the nitinol wire follows a sinuous path to define a plurality of circumferentially spaced apices 22. In other words, as illustrated in the exemplary embodiment shown in Fig. 2 (a), the wire is provided with one or more corrugated portions 23 having apices 22 connected by generally straight intermediate portions 23a.

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Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 23, line 24 and ending on page 24, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

D2
When one hoop 20 e.g. the hoop indicated at 20a has been formed, the point of winding of the nitinol wire is displaced longitudinally with respect to the axis of mandrel 46 to form the next successive hoop 20b. In other words, as illustrated in the exemplary embodiment shown in Fig. 2 (a), generally straightened extension portions 23b extend between and connect consecutive hoops 20. More specifically, as shown in the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 2 (b), such straightened extension portion 23b serves as a connecting segment that extends along a helical path from a sinuous or zig-zag segment of one hoop 20 to that of another hoop 20. The stent shown in Figure 2 (a) is the stent formed on mandrel 46 shown in Figure 2 (b) after cutting the stent longitudinally and rotating it 45 degrees to show the construction of the stent.